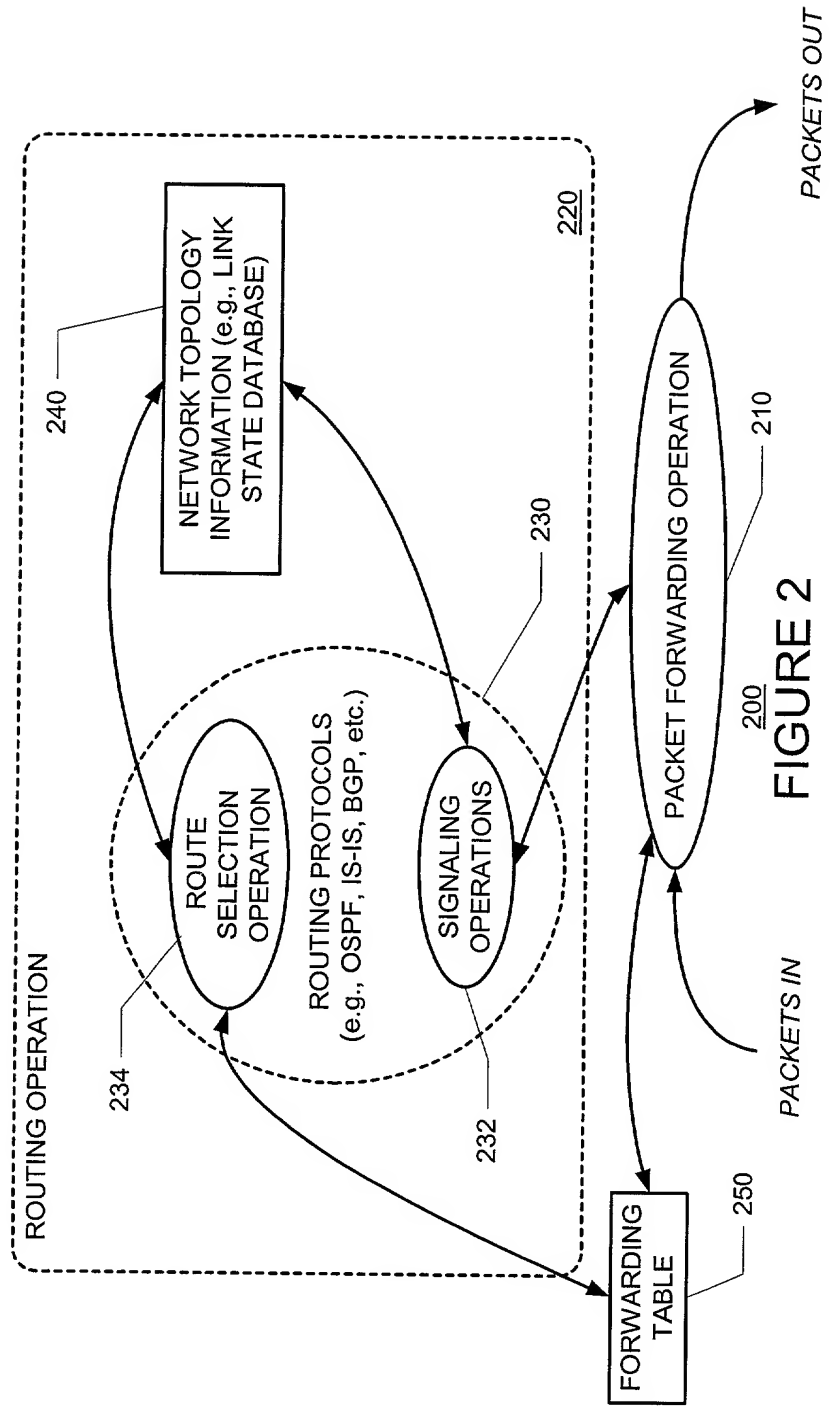


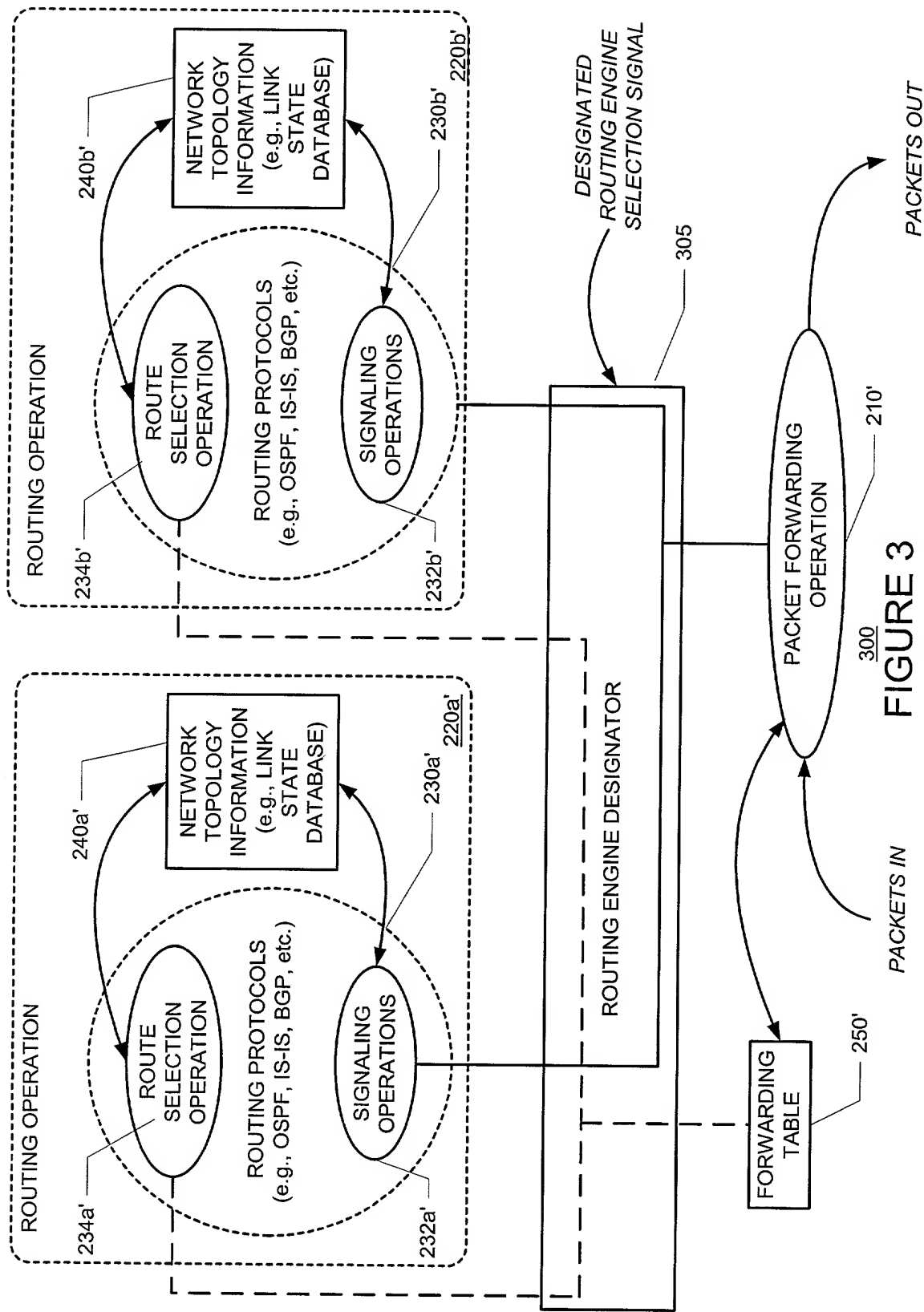
Diagram illustrating a network architecture 100, showing three main regions (clouds) and their internal components:

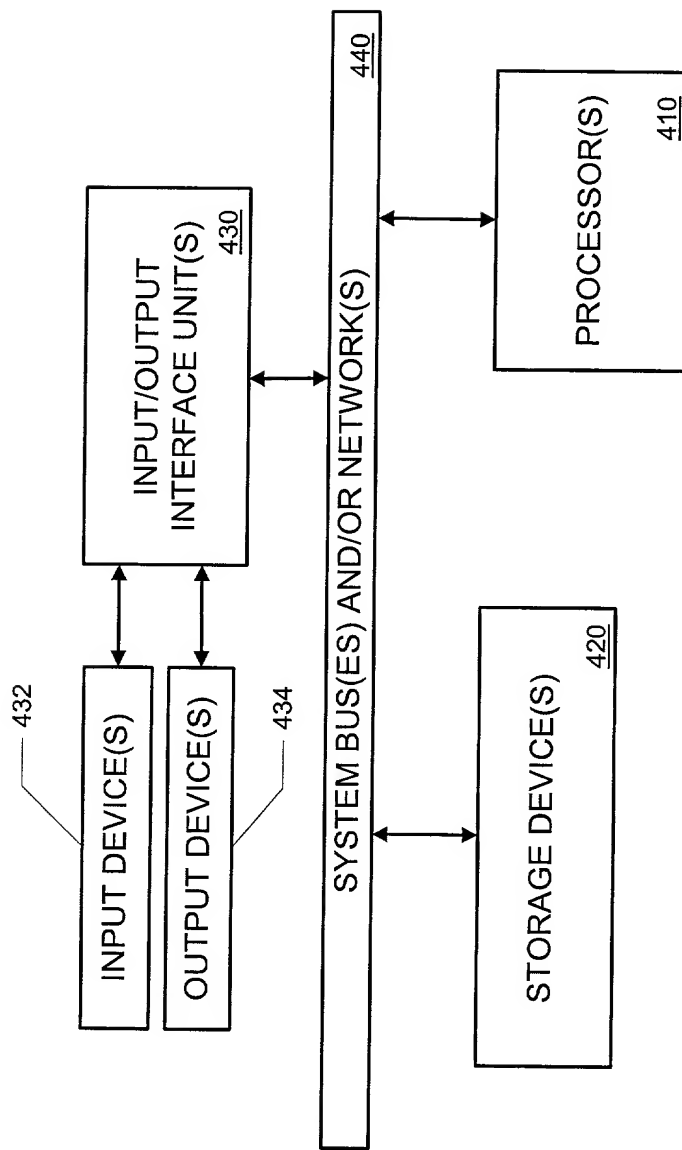
- Region 110 (Left):** Contains nodes 112a and 112b, 194. Node 112a is connected to 112b, 194, and 153. Node 112b is connected to 112a and 156. Node 194 is connected to 112a and 112b.
- Region 150 (Middle):** Contains nodes 154a, 158, 160, 156, 153, and 154c. Node 154a is connected to 158 and 160. Node 158 is connected to 154a, 156, 153, and 182. Node 160 is connected to 154a and 158. Node 156 is connected to 158 and 154c. Node 153 is connected to 158 and 112a. Node 154c is connected to 158 and 156.
- Region 152 (Right):** Contains nodes 182 and 184. Node 182 is connected to 158 and 184. Node 184 is connected to 182 and 154c.

Connections are shown between nodes across the regions, indicating a distributed network topology.

100







400

FIGURE 4

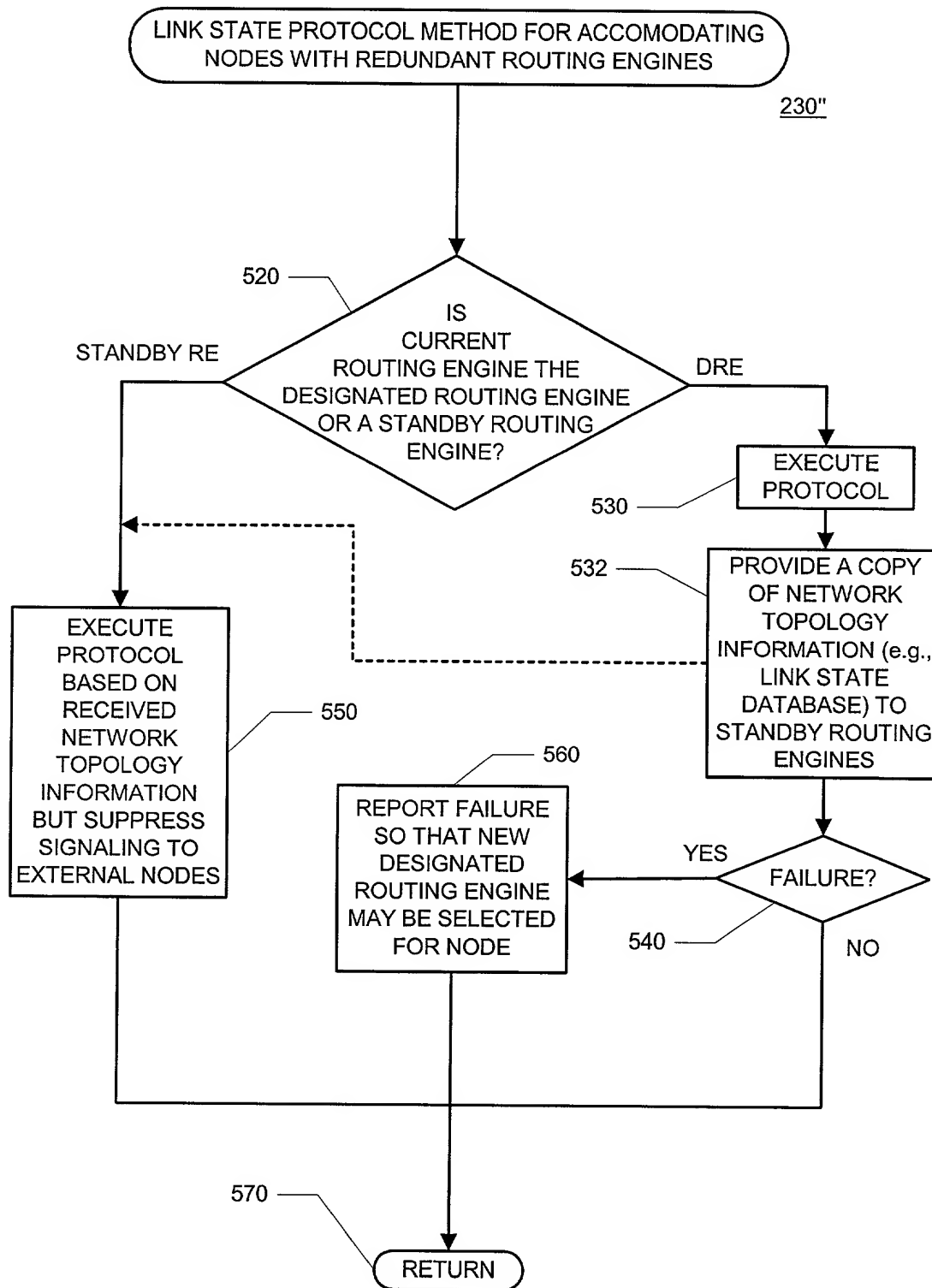


FIGURE 5

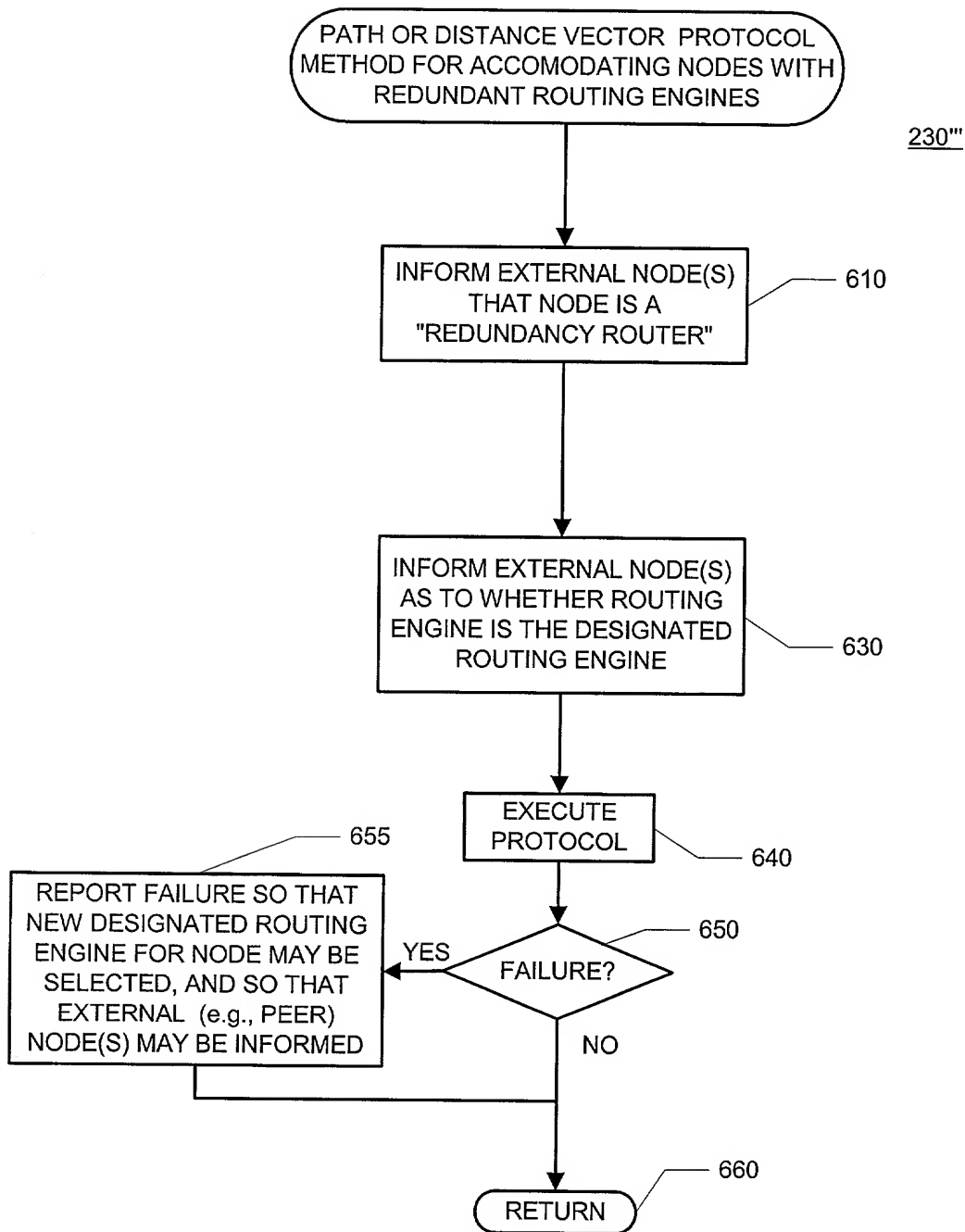


FIGURE 6

PATH OR DISTANCE VECTOR PROTOCOL METHOD FOR  
ACCOMODATING NODES WITH REDUNDANT ROUTING ENGINES 230'''

ACCEPT MESSAGE(S) CONVEYING THAT A NODE IS  
A "REDUNDANCY ROUTER", THAT A GIVEN ROUTING  
ENGINE OF THE NODE (WITH A UNIQUE IP  
ADDRESS) IS THE DESIGNATED ROUTING ENGINE 710

720

NEW  
DESIGNATED ROUTING  
ENGINE?

YES

UPDATE ROUTING  
INFORMATION DATABASE  
("RIB") TO (i) REJECT  
PATHS LEARNED FROM  
FORMER DESIGNATED  
ROUTING ENGINE, AND (ii)  
ACCEPT PATHS LEARNED  
FROM THE NEW  
DESIGNATED ROUTING  
ENGINE

NO

725

FIGURE 7

ACCEPT SIGNALING FROM ROUTING ENGINES  
OF A REDUNDANCY ROUTER NODE 730

740

IS THE  
ACCEPTED  
SIGNALING FROM THE DESIGNATED  
ROUTING ENGINE OR A STANDBY  
ROUTING  
ENGINE?

STANDBY RE

DRE

REJECT  
PATHS 760

750

ACCEPT  
PATHS

RETURN 770

FIG. 8 is a block diagram of a network architecture. The diagram shows a central network 830(156) connected to two autonomous systems, 810(110') and 820(150'). The central network 830(156) includes a controller 839, a forwarding facility 832, and two routing facilities, 834a and 834b. Each routing facility is connected to its own set of routing information (e.g., RIB) and forwarding information (e.g., FIB). The first routing facility 834a is connected to routing information 836a and forwarding information 838a. The second routing facility 834b is connected to routing information 836b and forwarding information 838b. The forwarding facility 832 is connected to both routing facilities. The first autonomous system 810(110') includes a node 830 connected to the central network. The second autonomous system 820(150') includes a node 840 connected to the central network. The central network 830(156) is also connected to a second set of routing and forwarding facilities, 842 and 844, which are connected to routing information 846a and 846b, and forwarding information 848. The diagram illustrates a redundant network architecture with multiple paths for data flow.

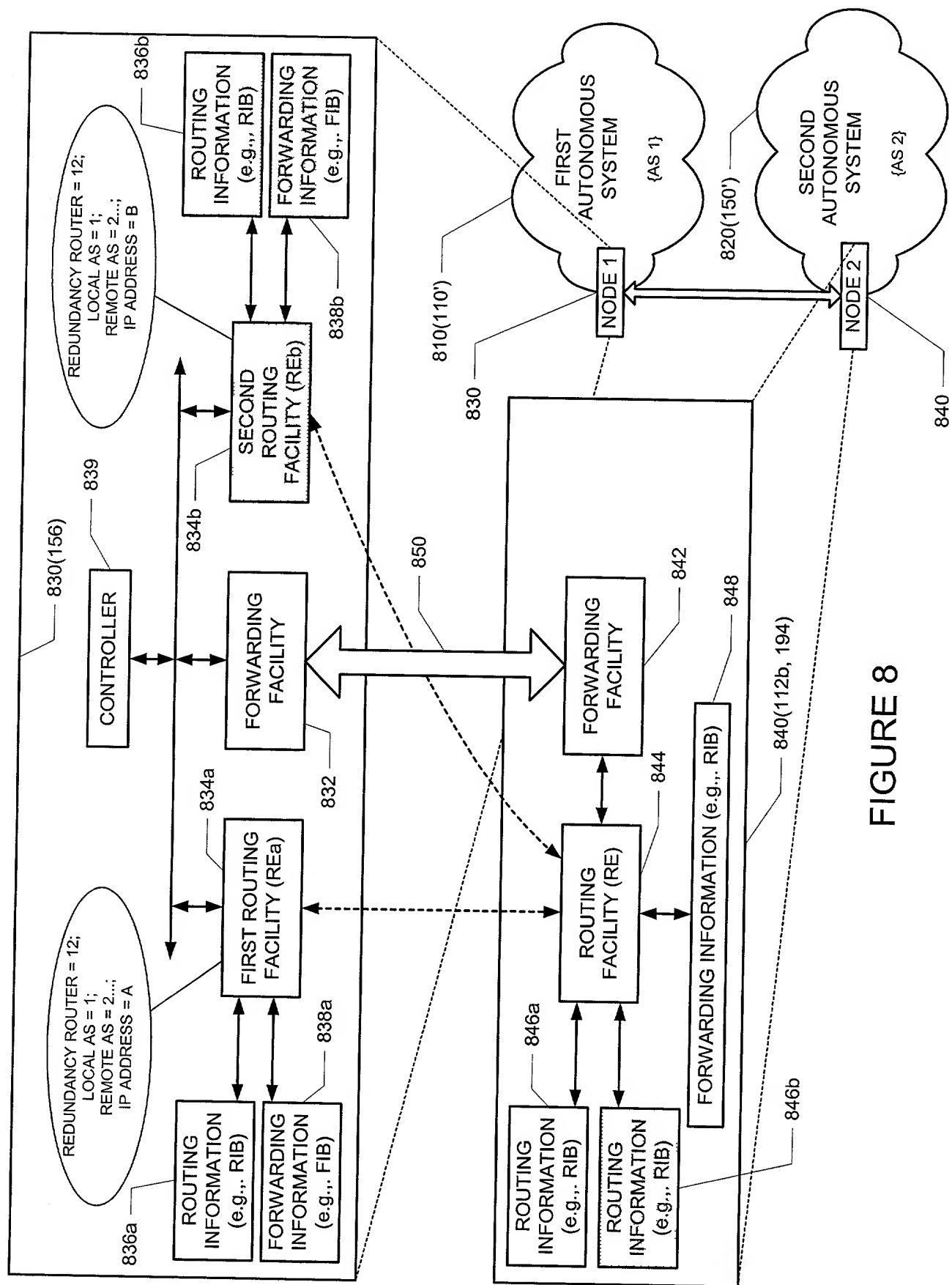


FIGURE 8

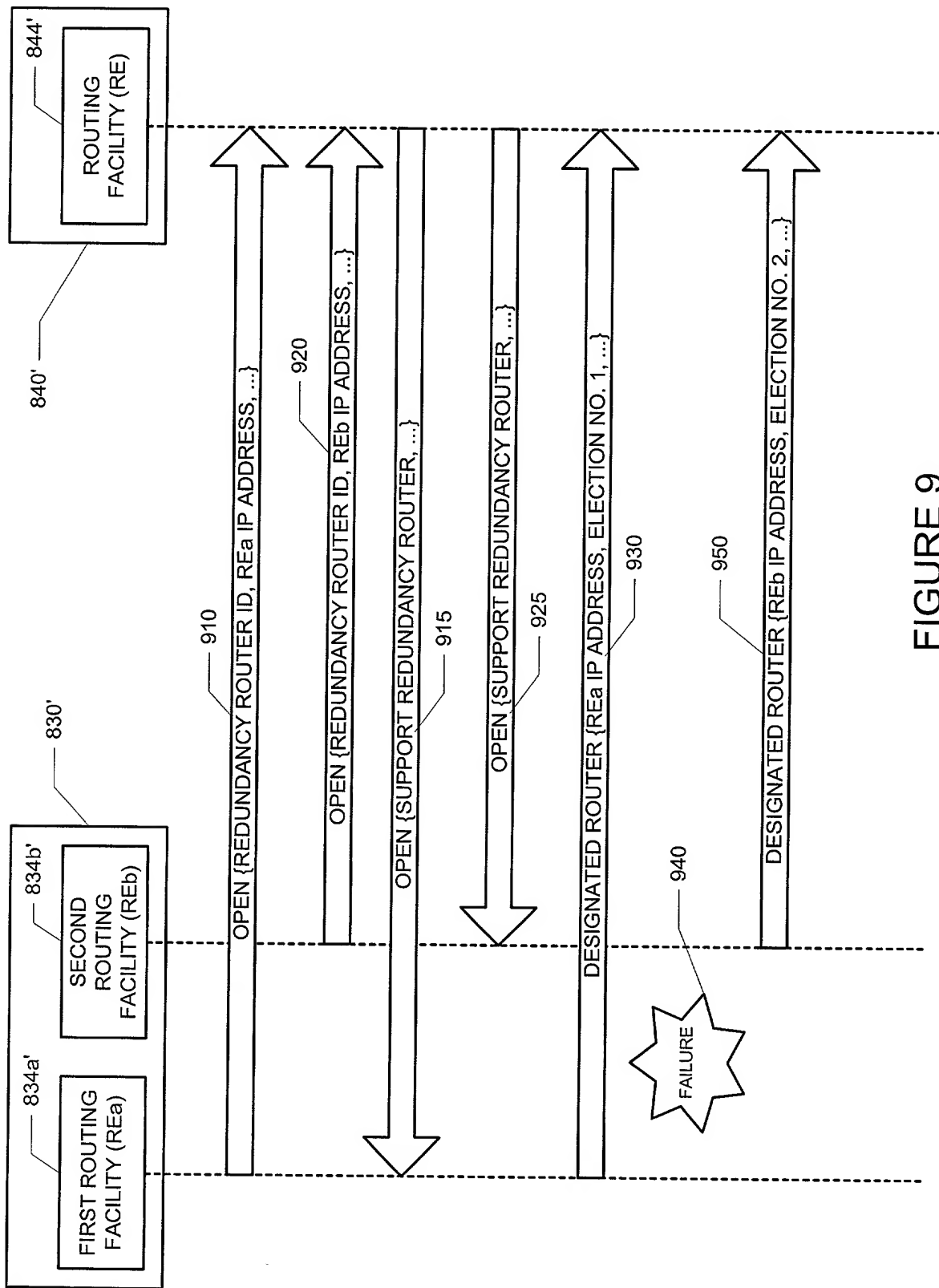


FIGURE 9

FIG. 10 is a block diagram of a network device 1000, which may be a router, switch, or other network device, according to one embodiment. The network device 1000 includes a processor 1010, a memory 1020, a network interface 1030, and a control plane 1040. The processor 1010 is connected to the memory 1020, the network interface 1030, and the control plane 1040. The control plane 1040 is connected to the network interface 1030. The network interface 1030 is connected to a network 1050.

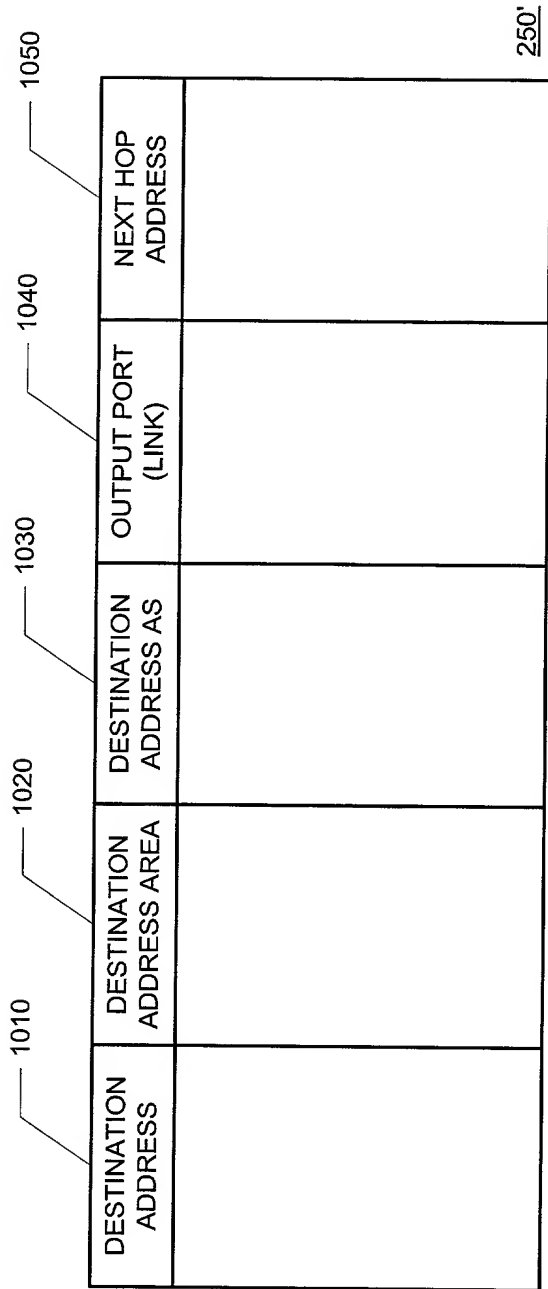


FIGURE 10